

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-29 are subject to a restriction requirement. In particular, Group I (claims 1-19) are drawn to a system while Group II (claims 20-29) are drawn to a process. ***Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-19) with traverse.***

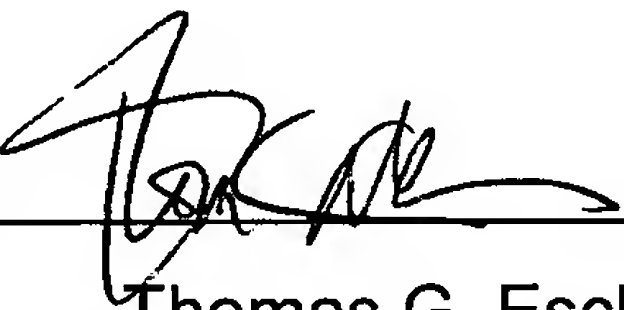
It is respectfully submitted that the requirements of MPEP § 806.05(f) are not met. Claim 1, for example, is directed to a system for depositing films that contains a microbalance in a deposition chamber, while claim 20, for example, comprises a method of depositing a film that includes monitoring a film with a microbalance. Thus the broadest claims do not appear to be distinct since its not clear how the process, for example, could be performed with a materially different product. Therefore it is respectfully submitted that all the claims should be examined together, and withdrawal of the restriction is respectfully requested.

Nevertheless, in order to comply with the restriction requirement, election of claims 1-19 is made herein, and examination of claims 1-19 is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account Number 50-1733, AMDP653US.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: July 18, 2003


Christine Gillroy